

From: DMS HRC MILITARY AWARDS BR(uc)  
Sent: 15:54:08 12/05/2005  
Cc: ALARACT RELEASE AUTHORITY(uc); DA ARMY STAFF(uc)  
Cc Precedence: Routine  
Subject: Approved Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM) and Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Disaster Relief  
Message Type: Other-Organizational  
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1. The Joint Staff has announced approval of the HSM and AFSM for U.S. service members engaged in the relief efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

2. Specific criterions are as follows:

a. The HSM is authorized to be awarded to Soldiers supporting immediate relief operations in the areas of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas (east of 96 degrees west longitude) from 29 August to 13 October 2005.

b. The AFSM is authorized to be awarded to Soldiers in direct support of the relief efforts for 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days in an area encompassing the U.S. from 27 August 2005 to 27 February 2006. Excluded from the AFSM are those Soldiers who meet the criteria for the HSM, outlined in paragraph 2a (above).

c. Personnel who are awarded the HSM may later qualify for the AFSM if their direct support does not include the dates and actions used to receive the HSM.

d. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are categorized as one operation.

3. Commanders in the grade of Colonel (O-6) and above are authorized to determine individual eligibility. Permanent orders are not, repeat, are not issued to announce approved service medals. Commanders must ensure that Military Personnel Divisions/Personnel Service Companies (MPD/PSC) are informed for update of personnel qualification records.

4. Request widest dissemination of this message.